



SPORT: An international science mission using a CubeSat

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NASA Science Mission Directorate

An Integrated Program
Enabling Great Science

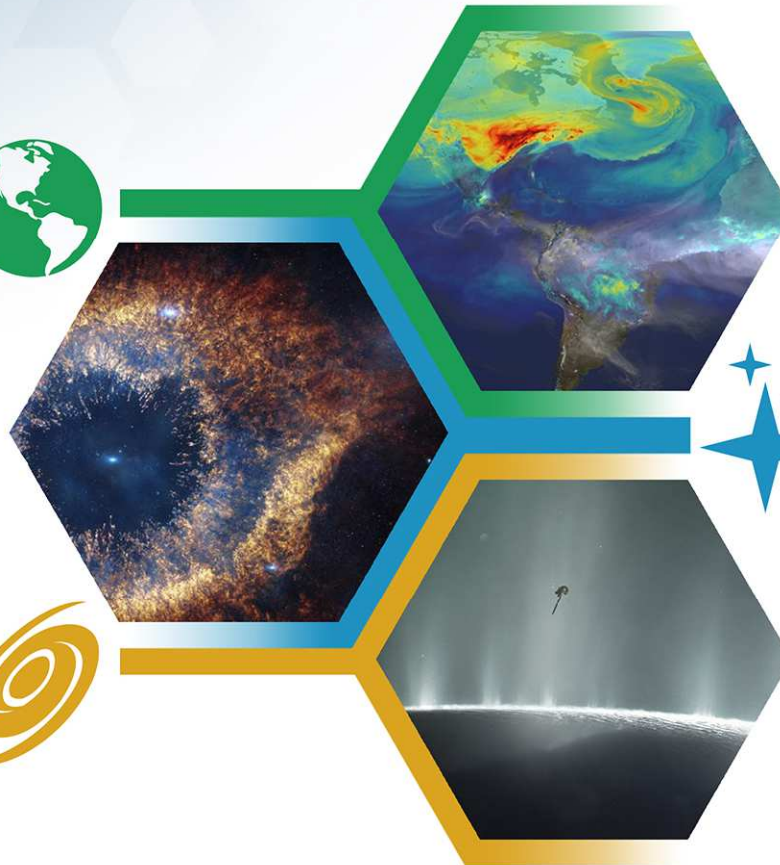


Key Science **THEMES**

Protect & Improve
Life on Earth



Search for
Life Elsewhere



Discover Secrets
of the Universe

Science by the NUMBERS



TECHNOLOGY INNOVATION

~\$400M Invested Annually



RESEARCH

~10,000 U.S. Scientists Funded
~3,000 Competitively Selected Awards
~\$600M Awarded Annually



SPACECRAFT

106 Missions
88 Spacecraft



CUBESATS

22 Science Missions
15 Technology Demos



SOUNDING ROCKETS

16 Science Missions
3 Tech/Student Missions



EARTH-BASED INVESTIGATIONS

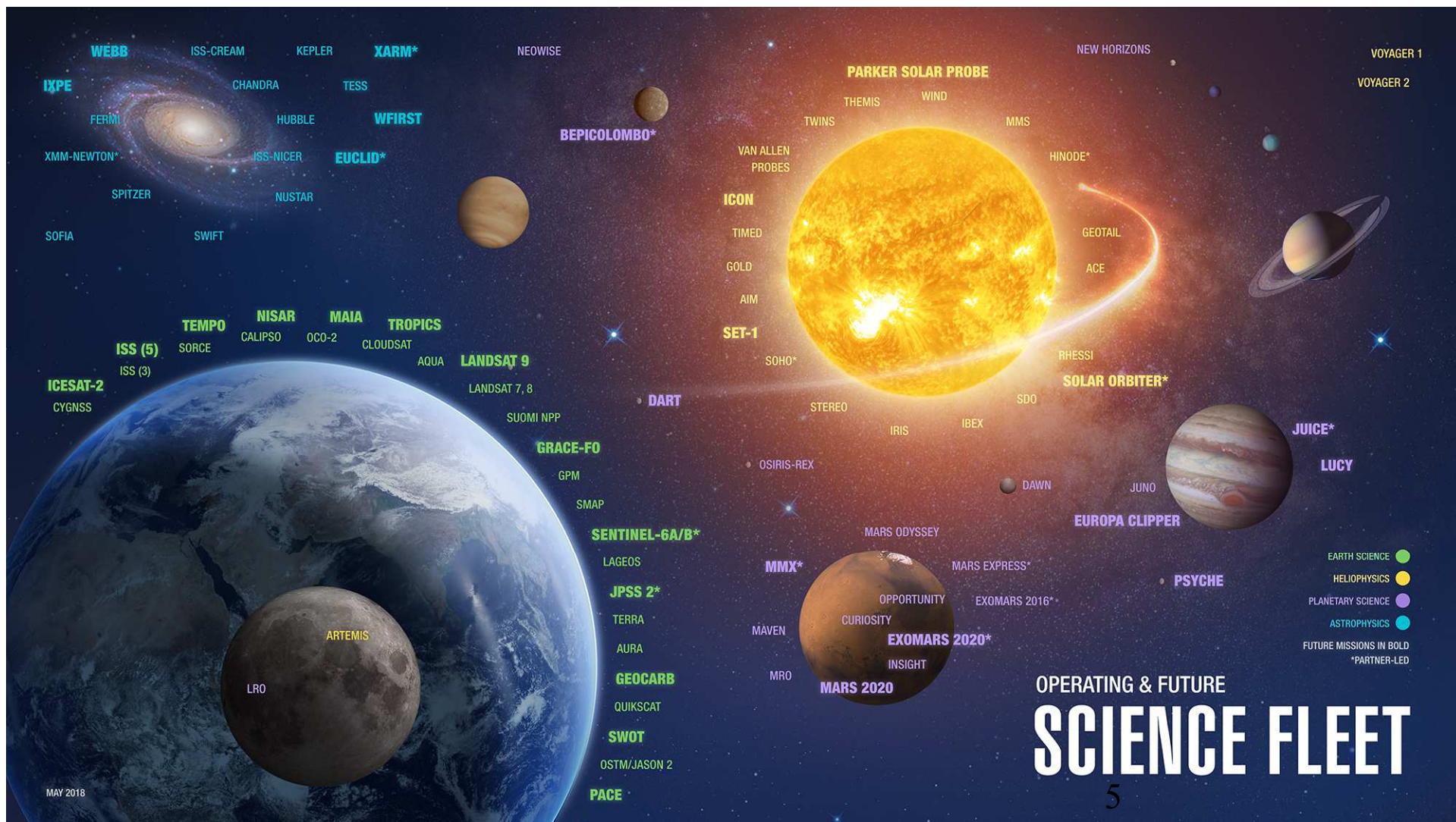
25 Major Airborne Missions
8 Global Networks



BALLOONS

13 Science Payloads
1 HASP with up to
12 student experiments

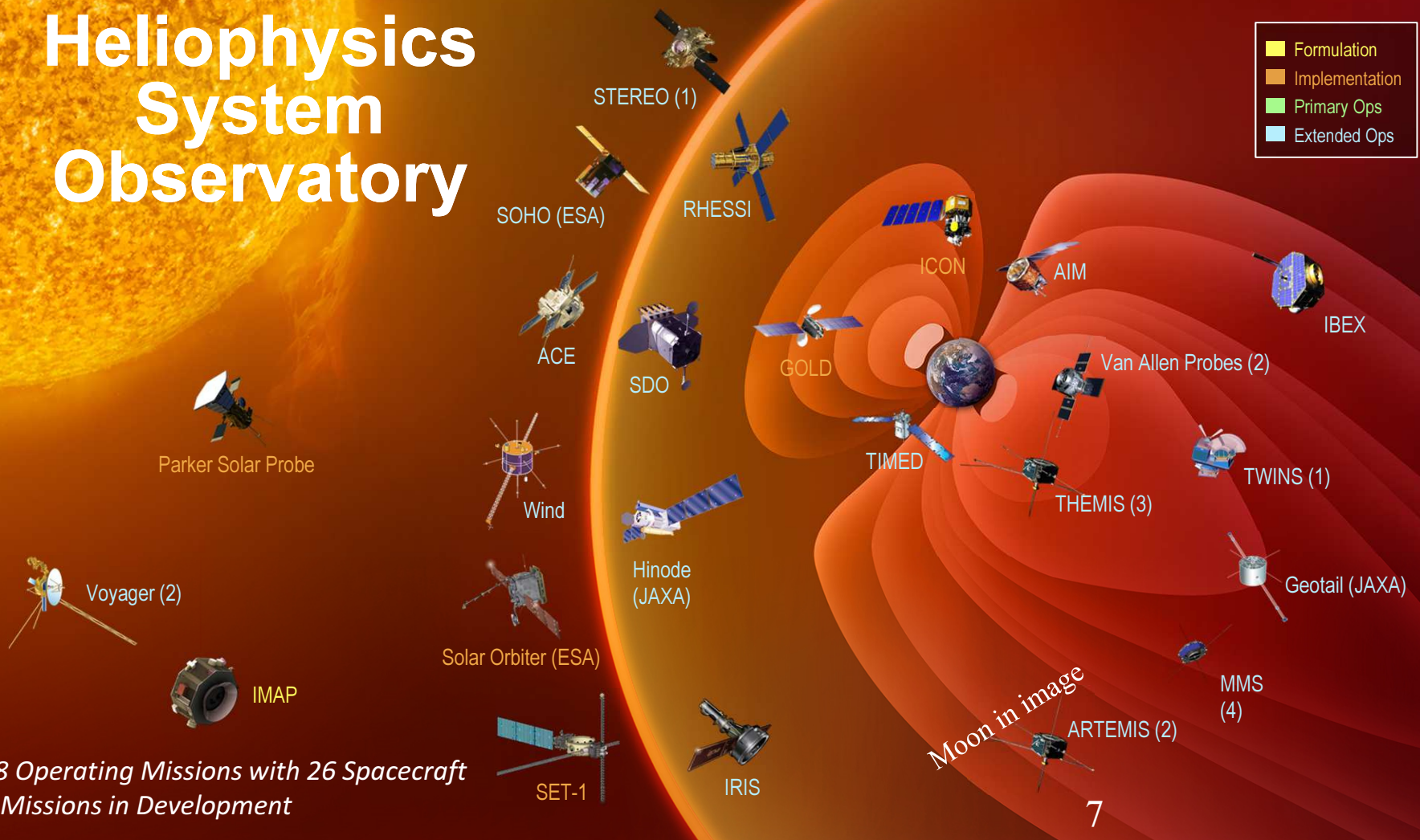
Current as of May 1, 2018



Heliophysics Science

Heliophysics System Observatory

■	Formulation
■	Implementation
■	Primary Ops
■	Extended Ops



2018 Helio Highlights – Launches



Left: GOLD launches from French Guiana on Jan 25

Middle: Parker launches from Kennedy Space Center on August 12

Right: ICON to launch on a Pegasus from Kennedy Space Center, NET October 6

International Partners



ESA (Europe):

- Solar Orbiter



KASI (Korea):

- Development towards prototype coronagraph for balloon flight in 2019



ISRO (India):

- Three sub-working groups established
 - Aditya-1 mission collaboration, space weather modeling, long-term strategic collaboration focus areas



JAXA (Japan):

- Working with JAXA on approach for Next Generation Solar Physics Mission (NGSPM)



AEB (Brazil):

- SPORT CubeSat Mission, LRD 2020



Presentation Outline



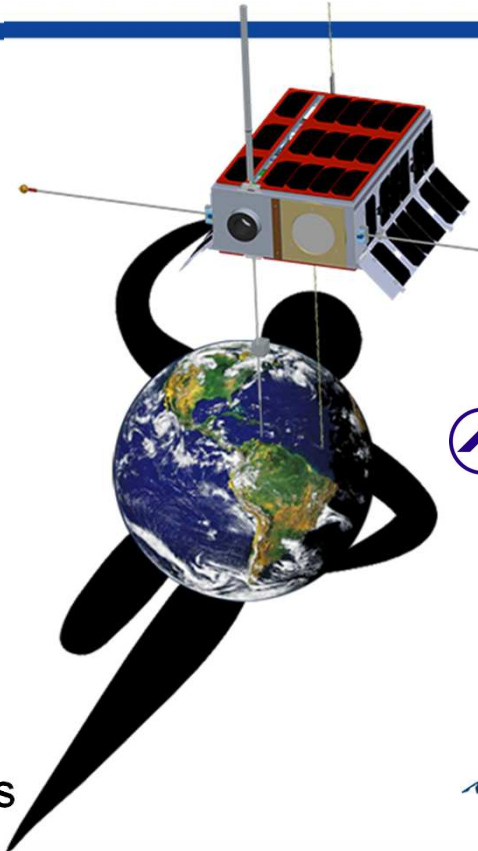
- **Overview: SPORT science and mission**
- **A Story: how did it come to be**
- **The Status: where are we now**
- **Future Plans: where are we going**
- **Q/A**



SPORT



- **United States / Brazil Science Mission**
- **United States**
 - Science Instruments
 - Launch
- **Brazil**
 - Spacecraft
 - Operations
- **Joint**
 - Science Data Analysis



Instituto Nacional de Pesquisas Espaciais



Instituto Tecnológico de Aeronáutica



US Southern Command



The Aerospace Corporation



University of Texas Dallas



University of Alabama Huntsville



Utah State University



Funding and Resources



- **NASA HQ**
 - Heliophysics Technology and Instrument Development for Science
 - Low-Cost Access to Space, CubeSat program element
- **São Paulo Research Foundation – FAPESP**
 - Innovative Research in Research Institutes
- **USA DOD**
 - Coalition Warfare Program (CWP)



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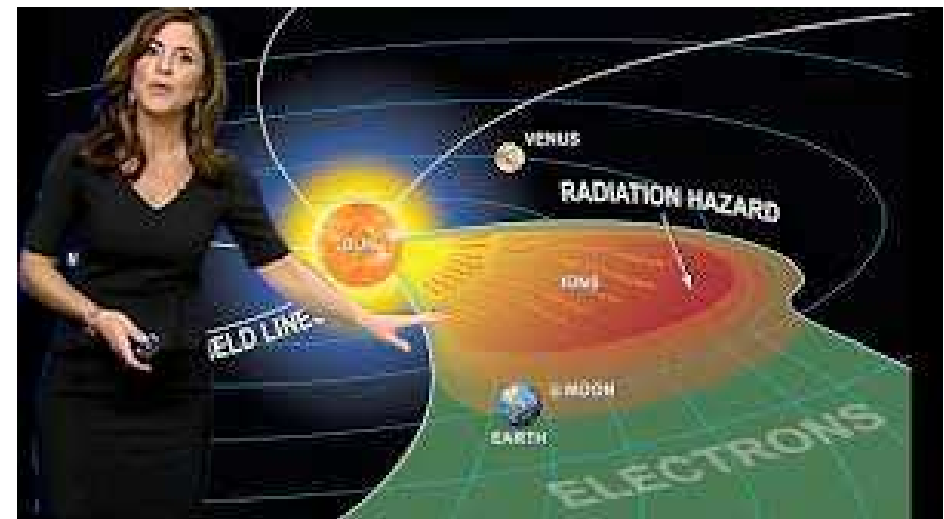
Forecasting the Weather



Earth Tropospheric Weather



Space Weather



Science Goals



A science mission to understand the preconditions leading to equatorial plasma bubbles and scintillation

- 1) What is the state of the ionosphere that gives rise to the growth of plasma bubbles that extend into and above the F-peak at different longitudes?
- 2) How are plasma irregularities at satellite altitudes related to the radio scintillations observed passing through these regions?



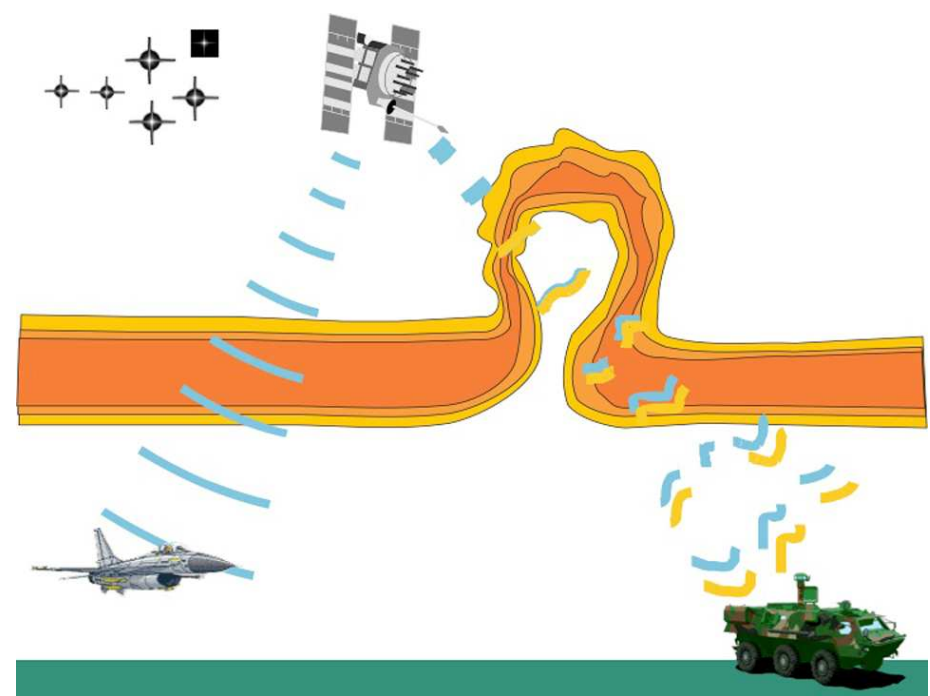
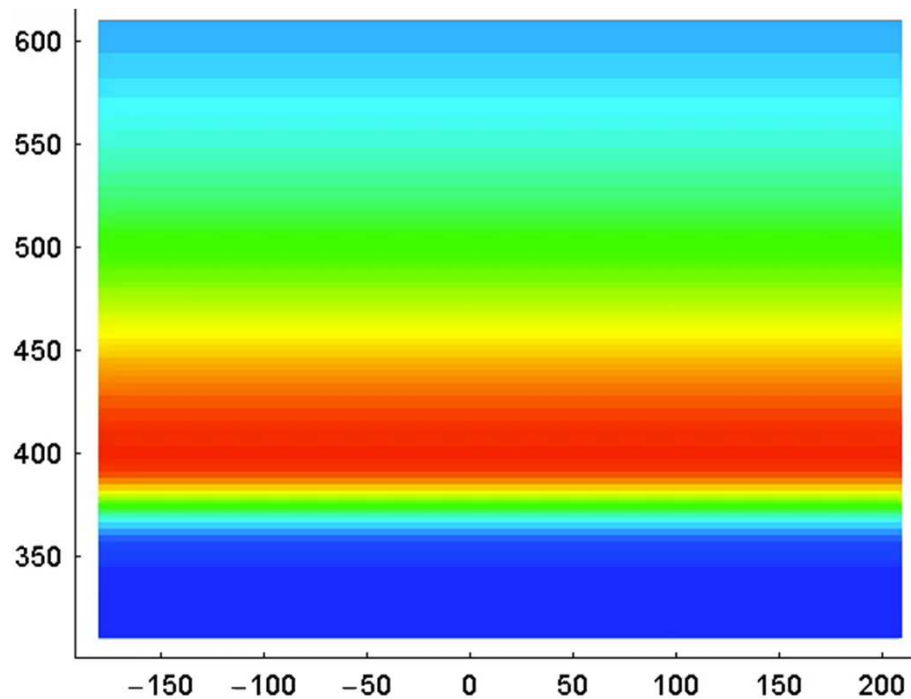
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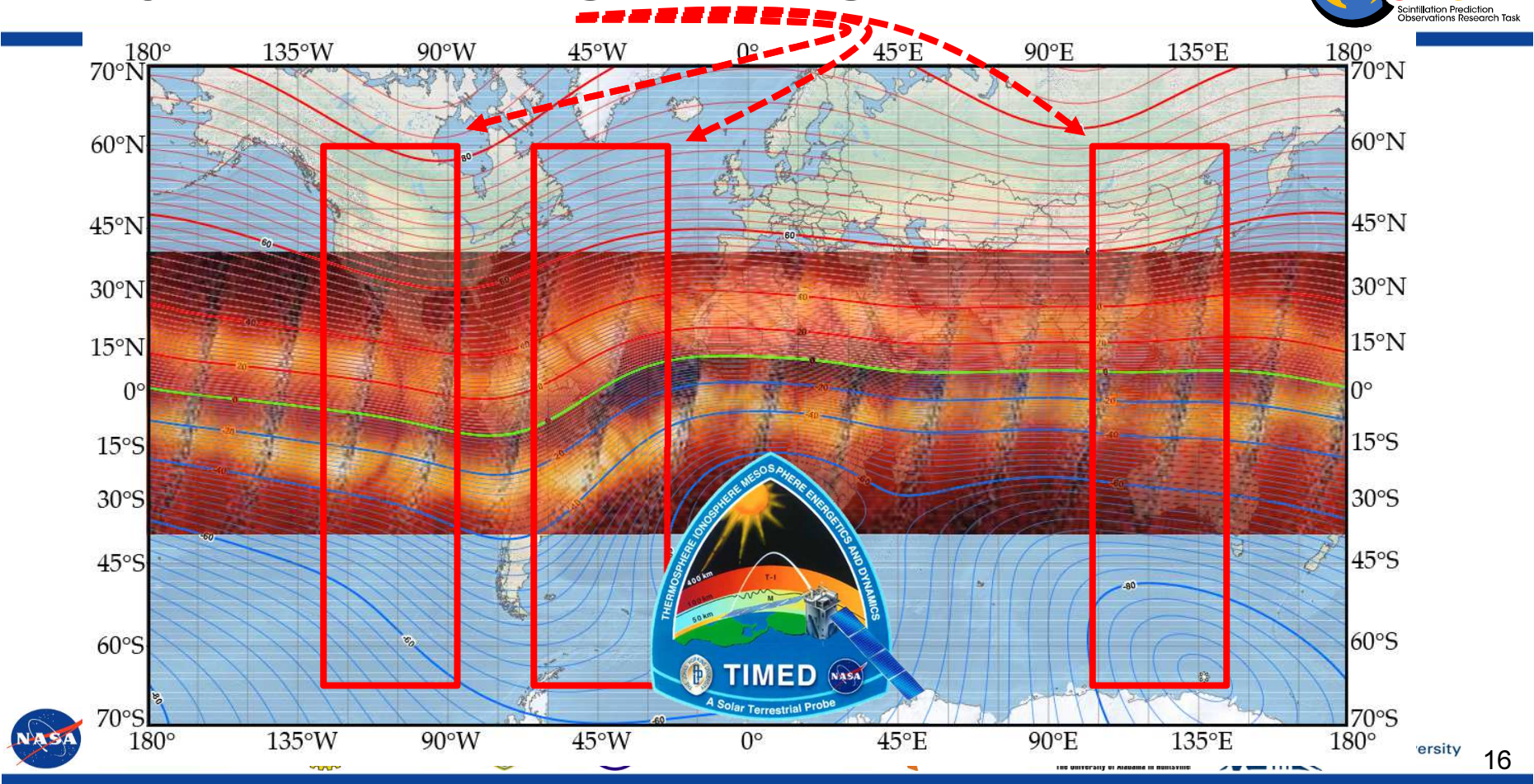
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Ionospheric Plasma Bubbles



Why are these longitude regions different



November 2014



United Nations/Brazil Symposium on Basic Space Technology
"Creating Novel Opportunities with Small Satellite Space Missions"

September 11, 2018 Natal, Brazil

17

November 2014



Objective

- Identify and discuss science missions
- Identify and discuss operational capabilities
- Identify and prioritize potential payloads
- Identify and discuss limitations

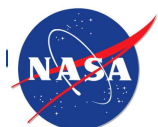
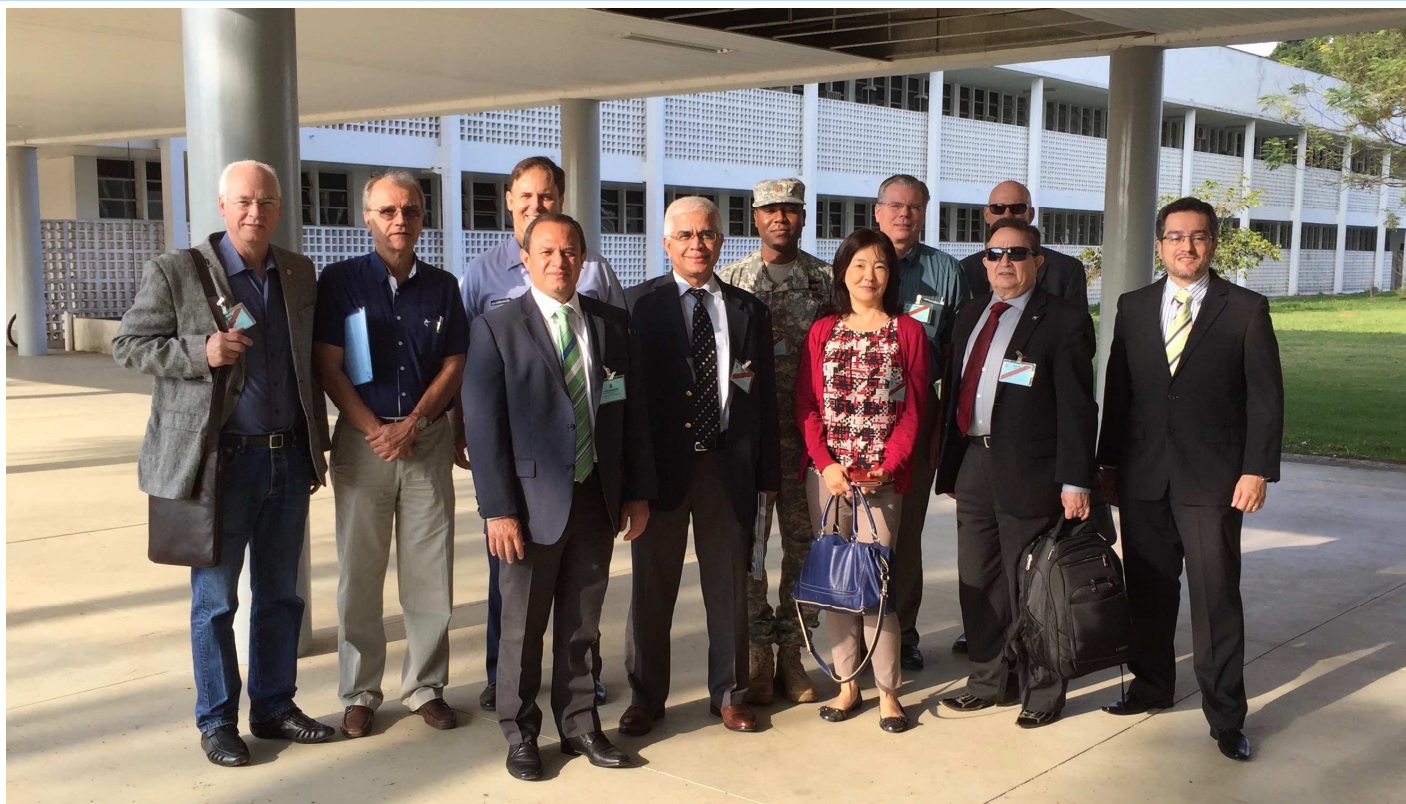
Build a Workshop Name from the Objectives

1. Establish the science foundation for first BRA/USA space weather small satellite
2. Review the first BRA/USA mission concept
3. Identify current and future mission sets
4. Establish sustainable relationships for future collaborations between INPE/ITA/
NASA/Southcom

Space Weather Applications Pilot Satellites (SWAPS) Workshop



May 2015

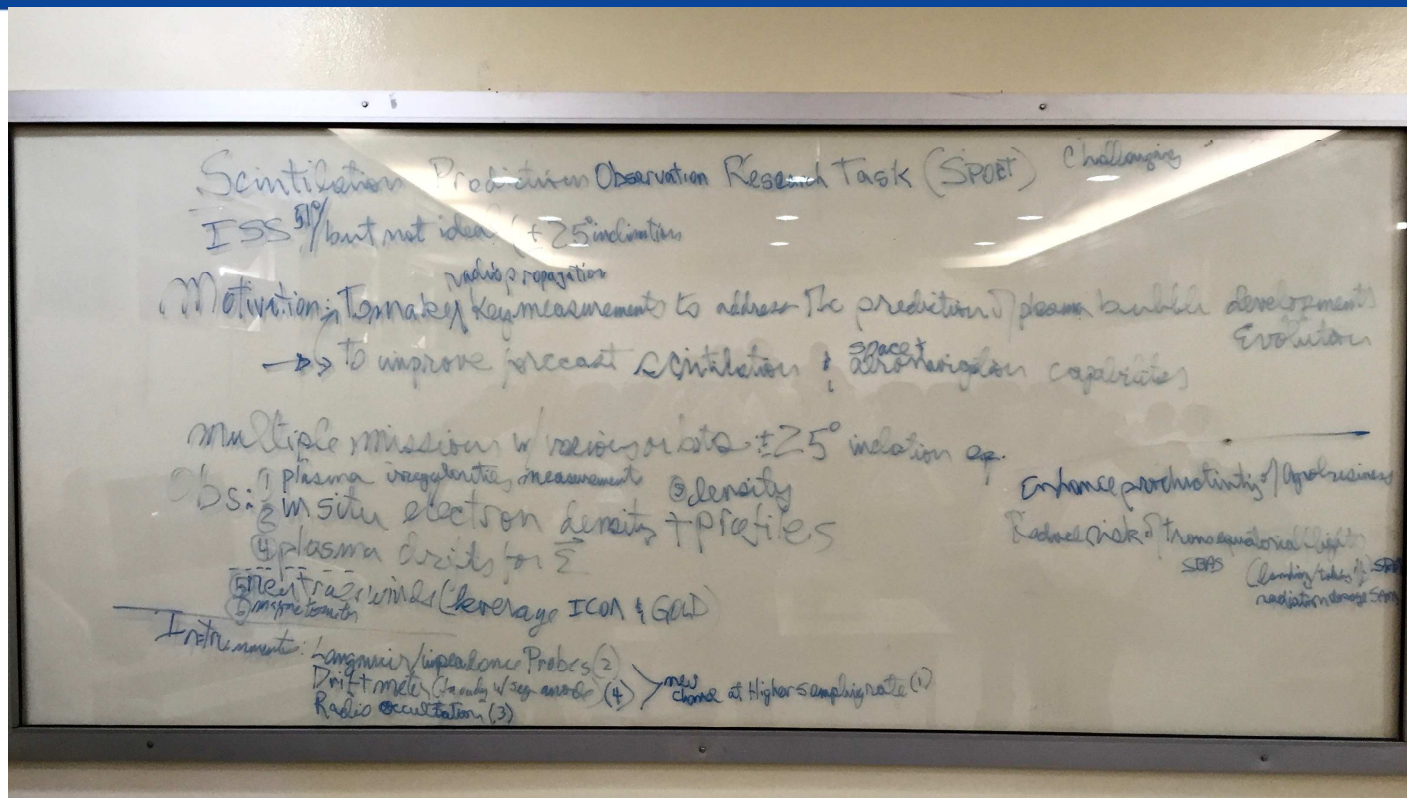


United Nations/Brazil Symposium on Basic Space Technology
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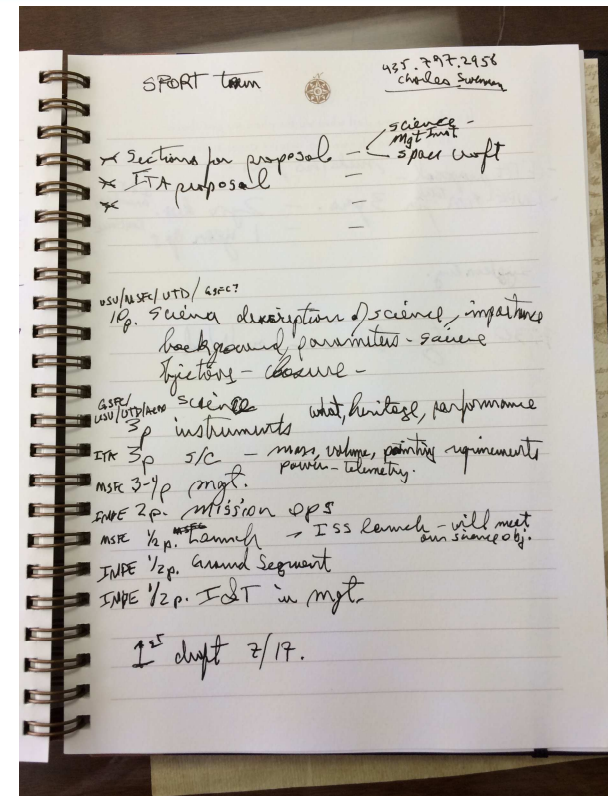
May 2015



July 2015



- NASA HQ yearly solicits Principal Investigator lead science proposals
- Due to NASA HQ on 8/28/2015
- One month to prepare proposal!!!
- Not good



August 2015



- **10/1/2018**

Convened team in Utah early August to work out technical details with ITA at The Utah State University Small Sat Conference



SPORT 2015 proposal



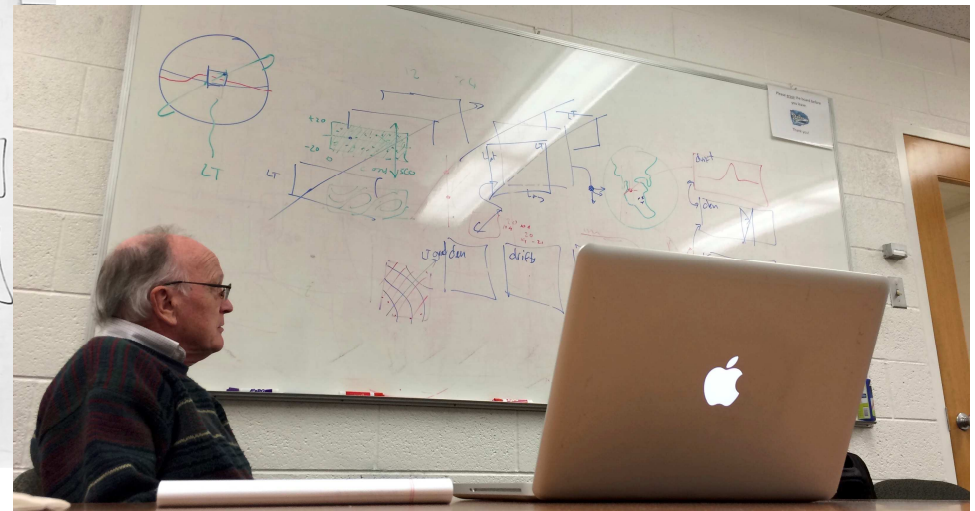
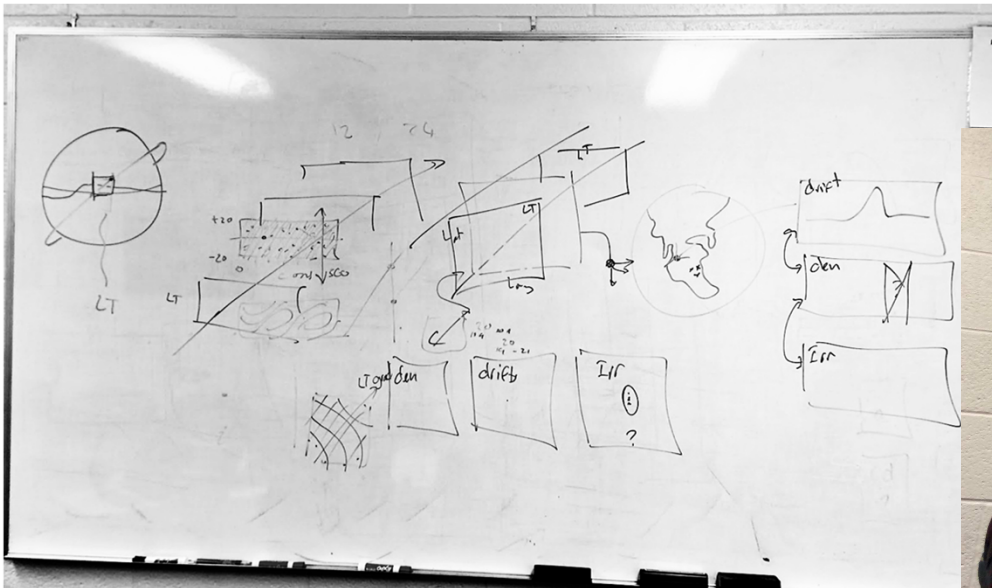
- What is the state of the ionosphere that gives rise to the growth of plasma irregularities that extend into and above the F-peak?
- How do plasma irregularities evolve to impact the appearance of radio scintillation at different frequencies?
- Not selected – January 2016
- Review Feedback: Science overpromised for a single CubeSat
- HQ Feedback: Encouraged to resubmit



March 2016



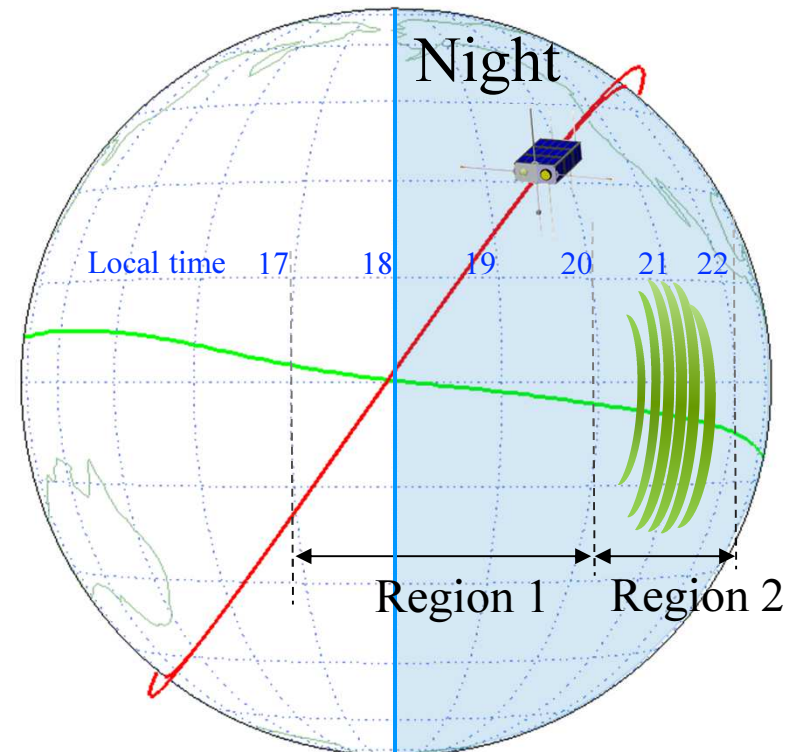
- Back in Logan, Utah to sort out the science



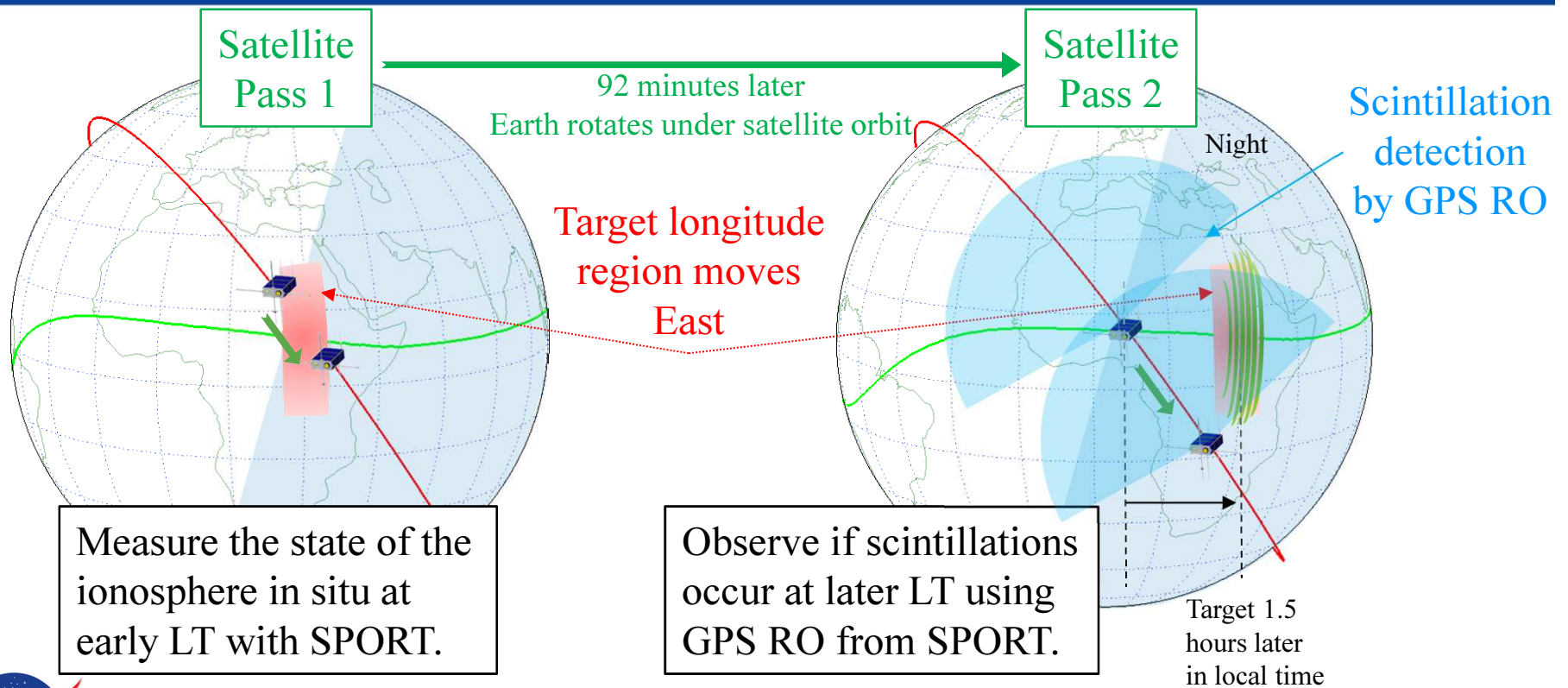
SPORT Methodology



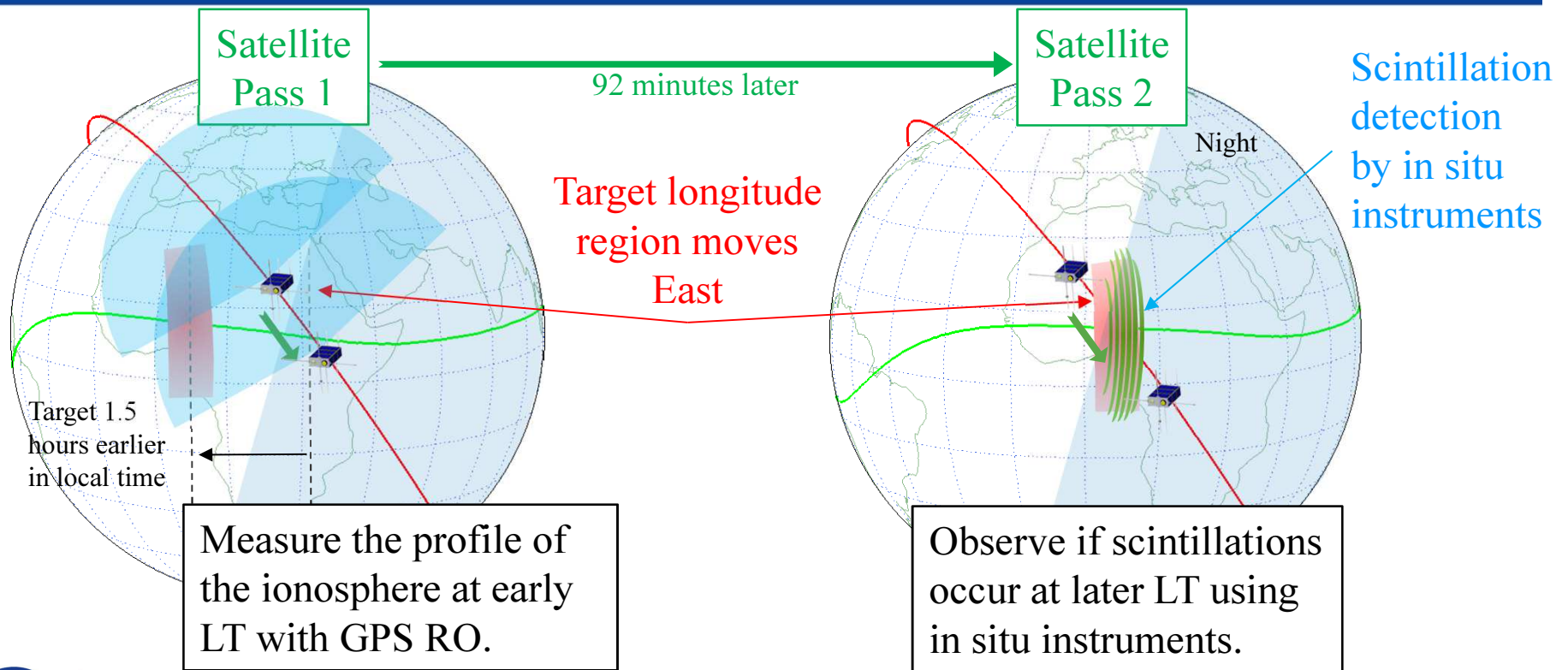
- The state of the ionosphere at early local times is related to the occurrence of scintillations at later local times.
 - How does this relation vary with longitude?
- Use case studies when SPORT ascending or descending node is within 17 to 24 LT sector.
- Examine ~15 degree longitude sectors



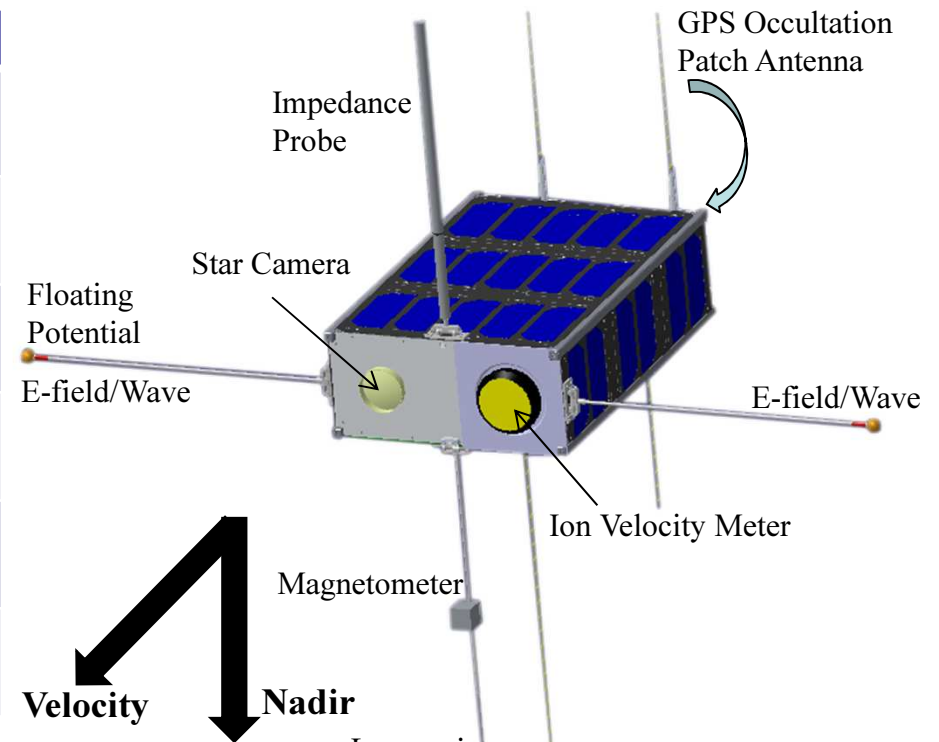
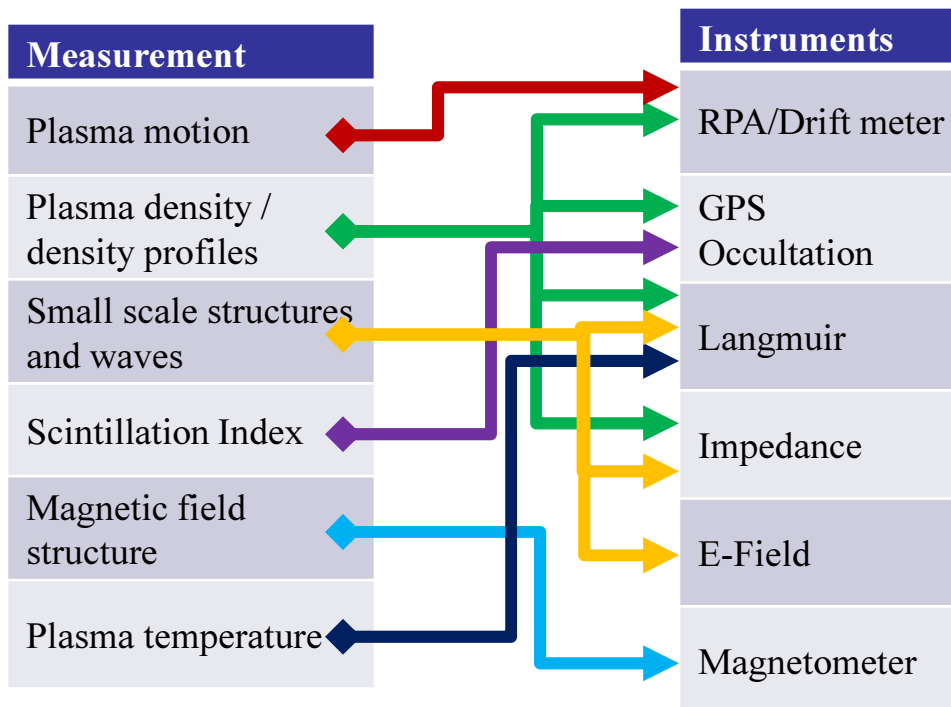
Methodology Strategy 1



Methodology Strategy 2



Measurement and Instrumentation



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SPORT 2016 Proposal



- 1) What is the state of the ionosphere that gives rise to the growth of plasma bubbles that extend into and above the F-peak at different longitudes?
 - 2) How are plasma irregularities at satellite altitudes related to the radio scintillations observed passing through these regions?
- Pathfinder Mission for future more robust multi-satellite mission
 - Submitted July 2016, Selected December 2016



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Now: International Agreements



- The required U.S.-Brazil Framework Agreement was ratified in April 2018
- NASA transmitted a draft SPORT Implementing Arrangement to AEB in June 2018
- AEB is currently conducting the required Brazil-side reviews of the draft
- NASA OIR is working with the U.S. Embassy in Brazil to press for expedient conclusion of the Implementing Arrangement



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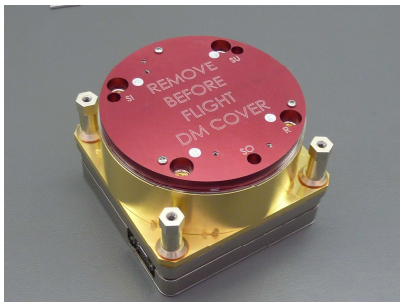


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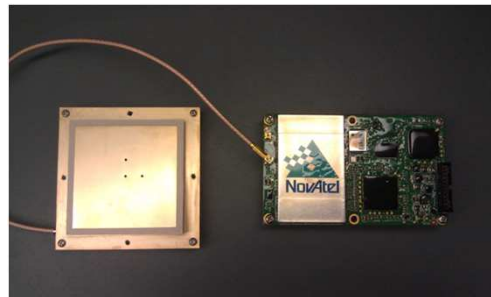
SPORT Instruments



Ion Velocity Meter
UTD



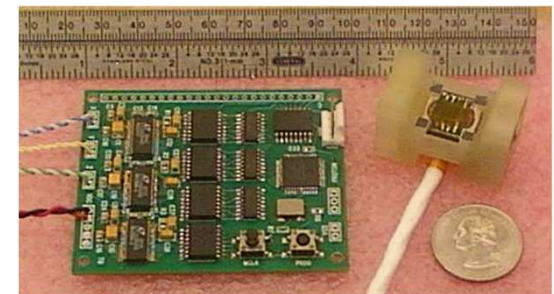
GPS Occultation
Receiver
Aerospace



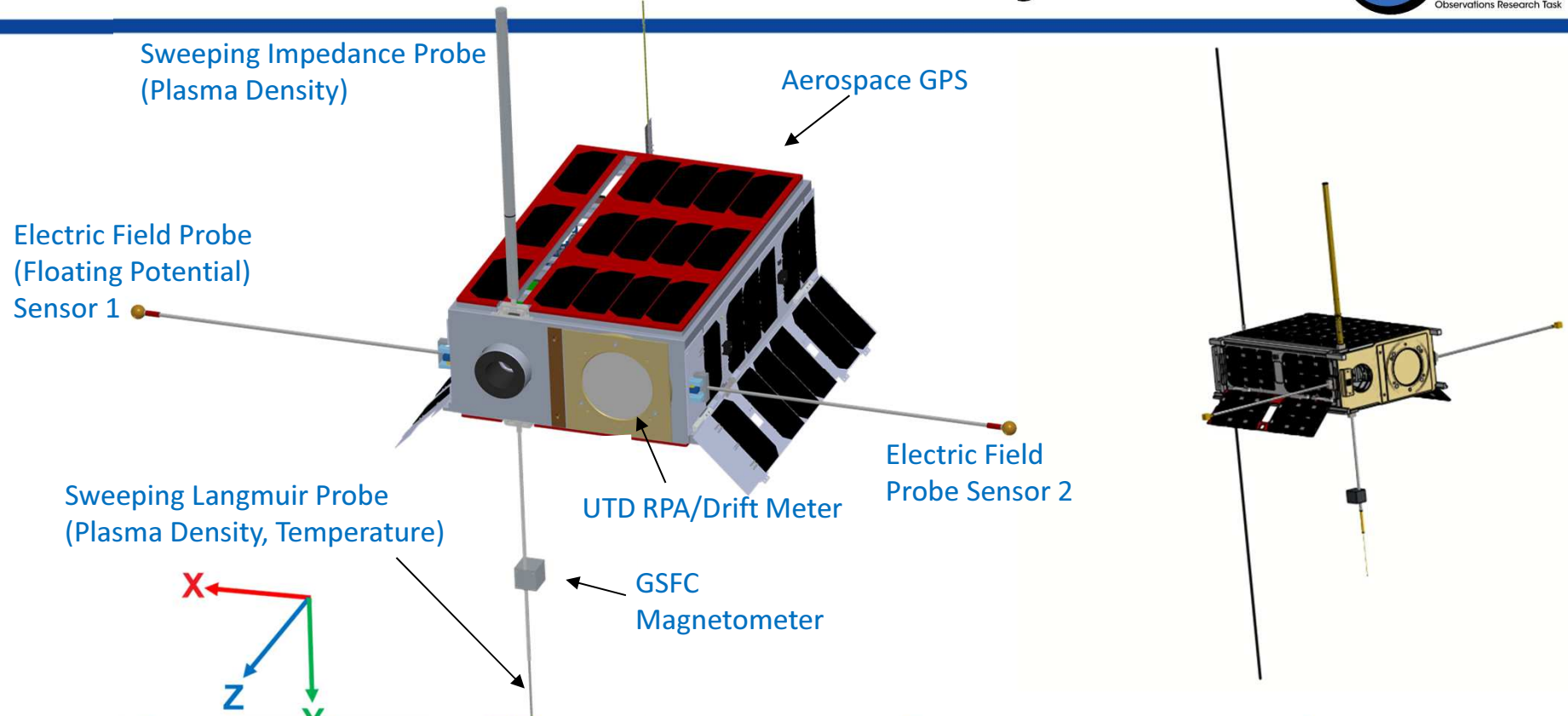
Langmuir, E-field,
Impedance Probe
USU



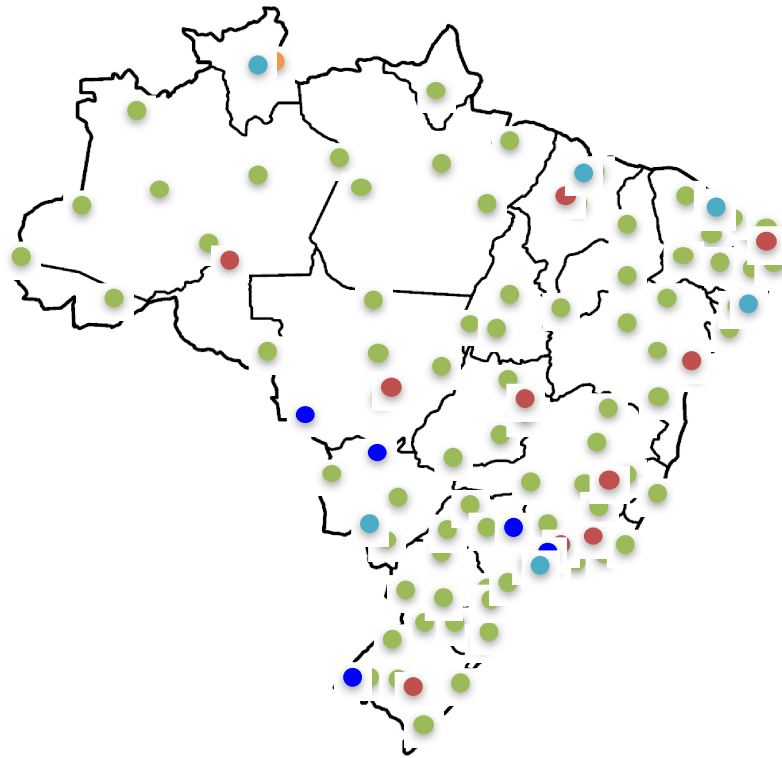
Fluxgate Magnetometer
NASA Goddard



SPORT Observatory



Ground Network



Ground Network

- Magnetometers
- Scintillation sensors
- TEC stations
- Imagers
- Ionosondes



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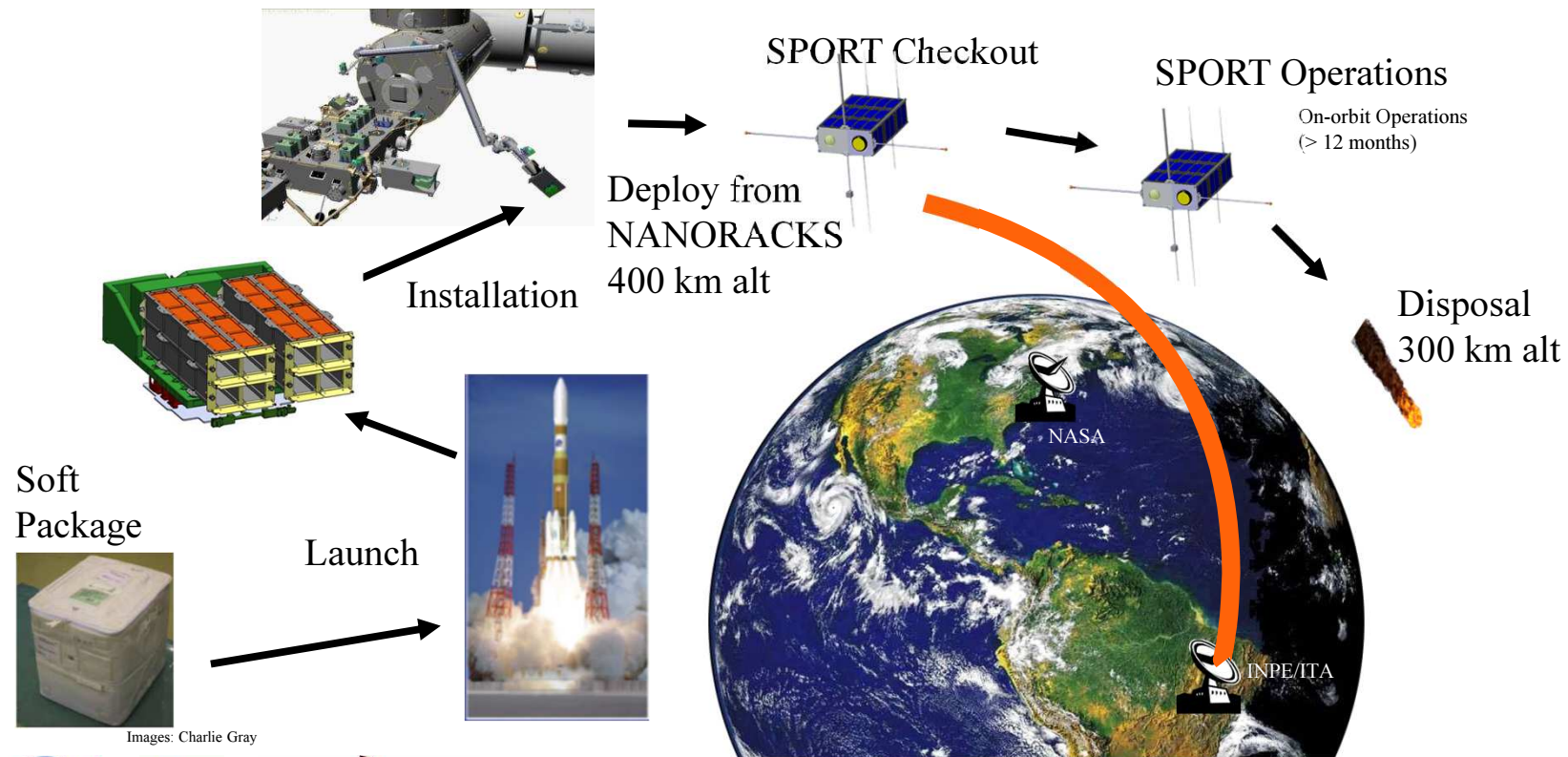


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Mission ConOps



Images: Charlie Gray



Design Review



- **Successful Design review held at Utah State, Logan Utah, in August, 2018**



now



- Working with the Brazilian Space Agency, State Department, and OIR at NASA HQ to establish the mechanism for collaboration – NASA/AEB Framework Agreement signed March 28, 2018
- ITAR and EAR issues are being addressed
- Funding of US instrument providers: USU, UTD, Aerospace, GSFC, and role of UAH in SE
- Establishing academic partnerships with INPE and ITA with US and UAH
- Working frequency allocation for satellite communications
- Increased active role for DoD participation
- Spacecraft CDR planned for January 2019 in São José dos Campos



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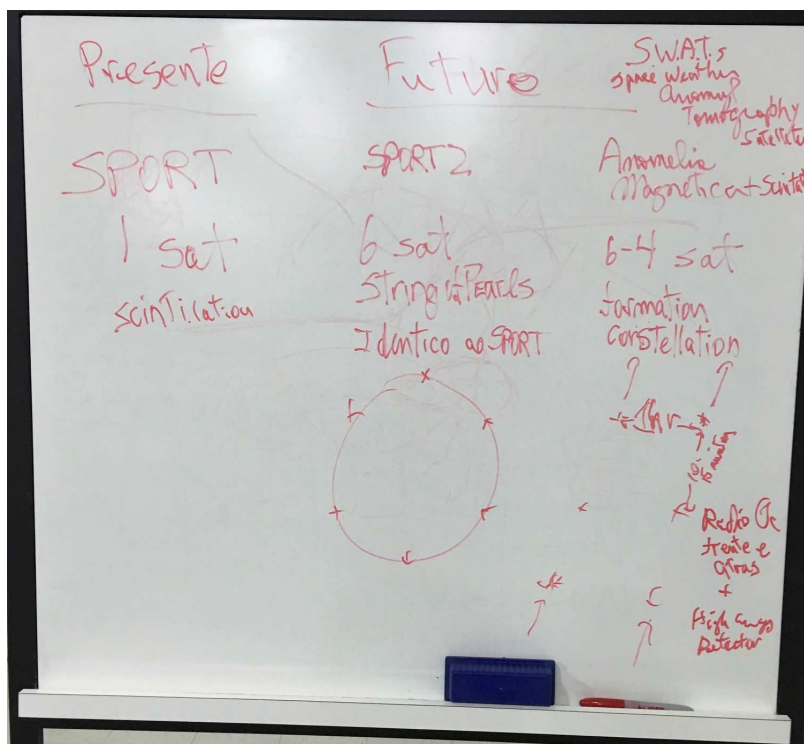
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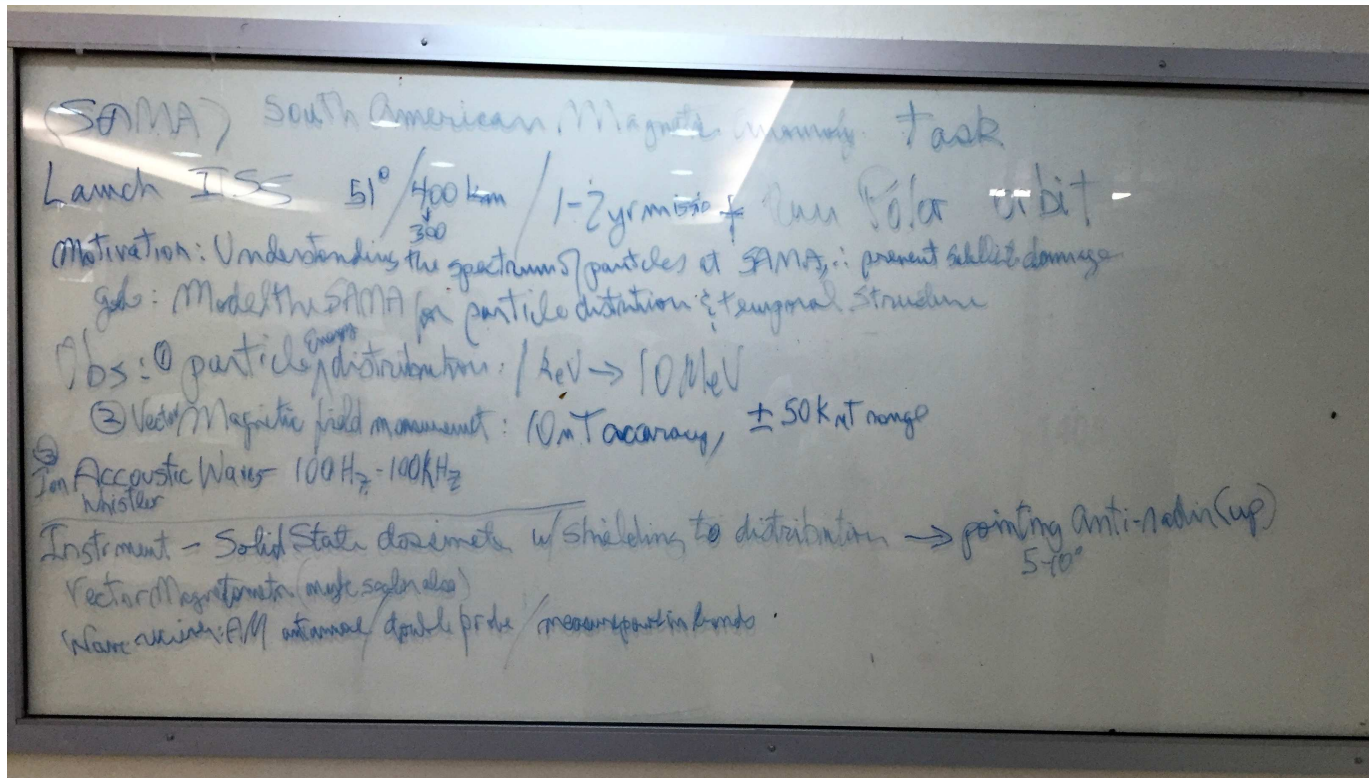
Future Plans



SPORT follow
on mission



May 2015



Or another mission with greater GSFC engagement



Value of Science



Take Aways



- **Advanced strategic planning is a requirement**
 - Science wins the proposal, but everything else can lose it
 - Better to be lucky than good, but you have to be good
 - Science is a team sport
 - Be persistent and diligent, nothing worthwhile is easy, pay attention to details
 - Science with an applied characteristic is more valuable – don't be a Homer



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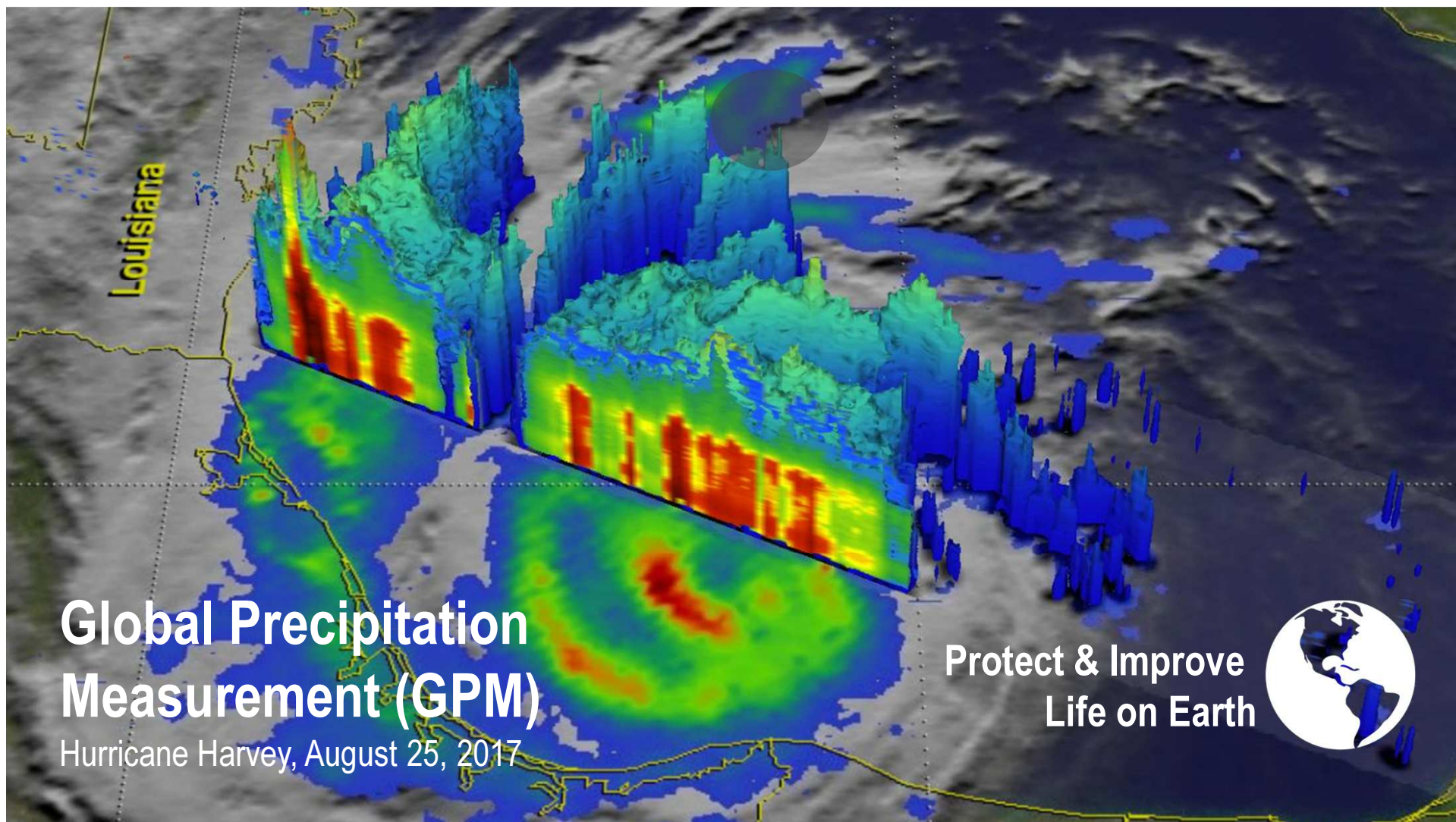


SPORT

Scintillation Prediction
Observations Research Task

BACKUP





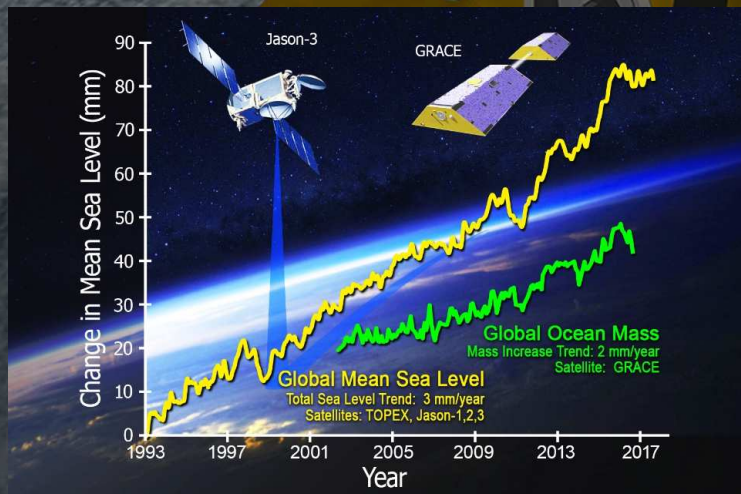
Global Precipitation Measurement (GPM)

Hurricane Harvey, August 25, 2017

Protect & Improve
Life on Earth



GRACE Follow-On



Protect & Improve
Life on Earth



InSight



May 5, 2018 - NASA's InSight to Mars lifts off at Vandenberg Air Force Base in Central California



Discover the
Secrets
of the Universe



Discover the
Secrets
of the Universe



*March 29, 2018 - Second stage of a United Launch Alliance
Delta IV Heavy is mated to the common booster core at Cape
Canaveral Air Force Station*

PARKER SOLAR PROBE

A Mission to Touch the Sun



TESS

Launched April 18, 2018



April 18, 2018 - SpaceX Falcon 9 rocket launches from Cape Canaveral carrying NASA's Transiting Exoplanet Survey Satellite (TESS)

Search for
Life Elsewhere



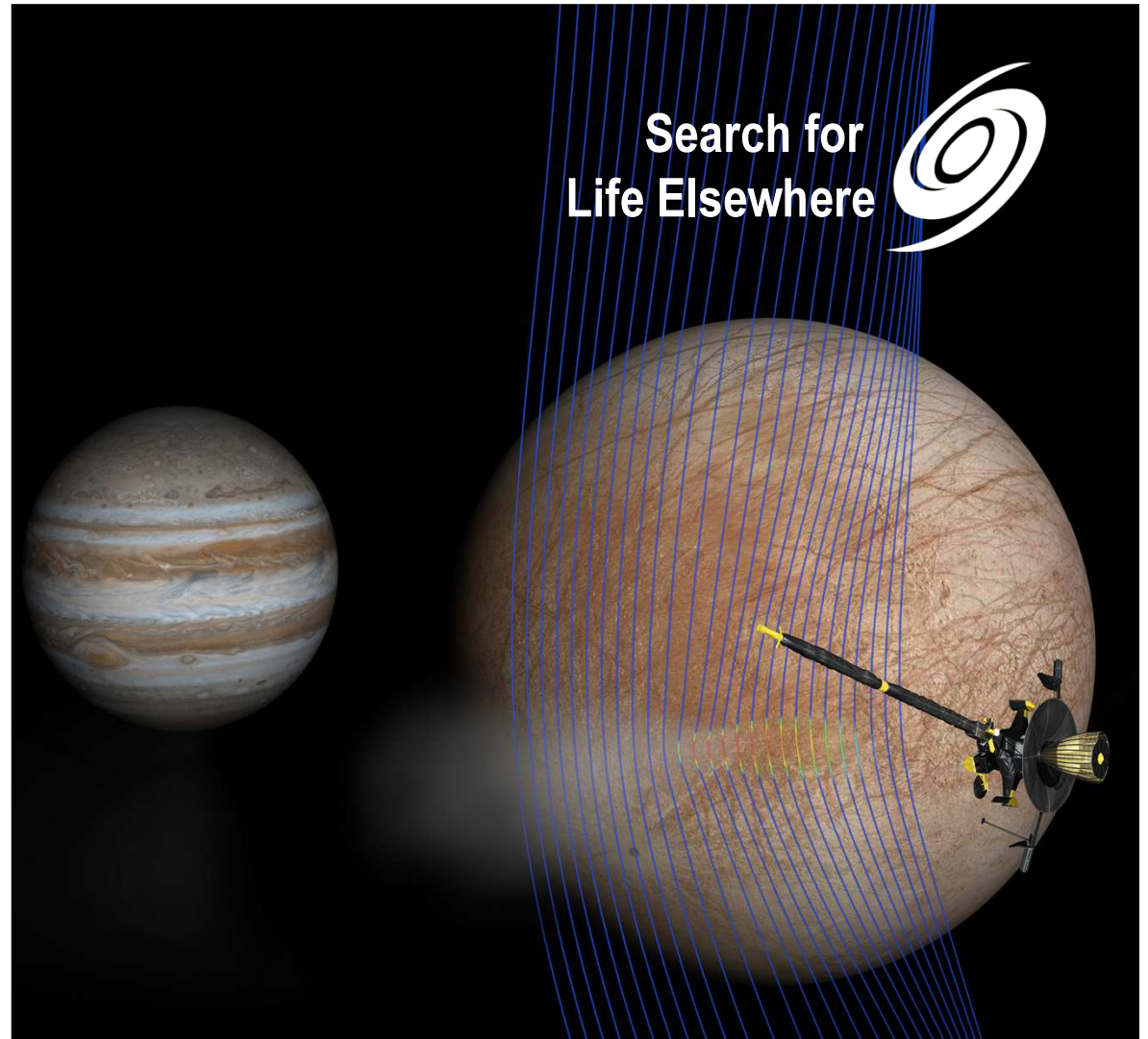
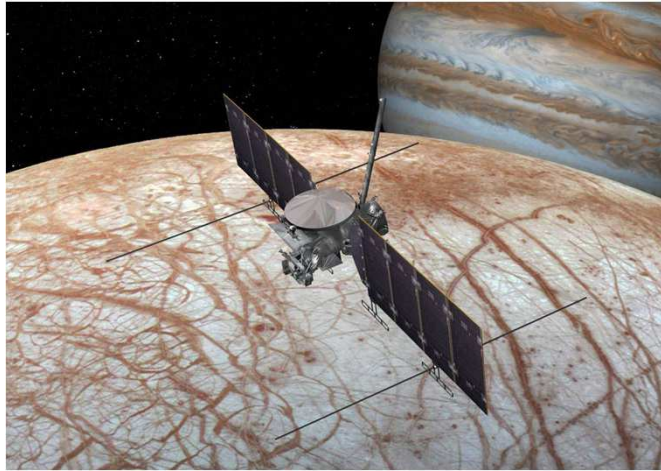
Search for
Life Elsewhere



Mars 2020



Mar 13, 2018 - A technician works on the descent stage for NASA's Mars 2020 mission inside JPL's Spacecraft Assembly Facility



Value of Science

